

packinghouse. He went on to serve his country in the Army and returned to work for the San Bernardino Unified School District for over 26 years. He has always modeled a strong work ethic for his family, and those who love him, speak of his lifelong dedication of service to others.

James should be proud of his marriage of 35 years to the beautiful Rena, and of the four wonderful children he has raised to be upstanding and contributing citizens and proud parents, in their own right.

"Jaime", my friend, may the rain always fall gently on your house and may your face always greet the rising sun.

James' family offers the following on the occasion of his birthday:

Touching our lives with his gentle strength and guiding us through the years, everyone cherishes "Jaime" for the contributions he has made. Growing up, we remember our father for fishing with bologna, jerky and Velveta Cheese, for playing "Billy Boy" on his guitar while we danced and sang along, and how much dedication he has committed toward leading our family.

Raised in the East Highlands Community, he was the youngest of eight. Over the years he has accomplished so much.

His strong work ethic can be used as an example to us all. Starting at the mere age of 14, he worked in a packinghouse. Dad has served in the United States Army. And he has worked for 26 years for the San Bernardino School District. All of his hard work and dedication to serving others has been shown by living his dream of working with state and local dignitaries. He has been married to Rena for 35 years. Together they have four children: Ken, Alaina, James and Tom Tom, while Barbara is loved as well. Instilling the importance of higher education he encouraged his children to pursue college. He is also a grandfather of 14 and has a great-grandchild on the way.

Dad, we love you. Don't ever think for one day that the things you do go unnoticed because not only does God see them, we do too.—Love, Your Kids.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. BILL WILLIAMS

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, each morning in my hometown of Crowley, in the heart of South Louisiana's Cajun Country, residents turn on the radio to a familiar sound. Between the classic melodies of the 1930s and 40s, listeners are treated to their daily dose of local news, talk and happenings in and around the Crowley area. In many households, this start to each new day is a family tradition. Young and old alike tune in to AM 1450 in the early hours of each morning to hear the voices of Bill Williams and Shel Kanter supply the local news, school lunch menus, and the ever-popular mystery quiz. Far from ordinary and always full of surprises, Bill and Shell truly are the "voices" of Crowley.

Bill and his partner Shel have made the Bill Williams/Shel Kanter radio program a morning staple. Forty-four years of continuous air time

is a feat in any media market, but Bill and Shel offer so much more than a radio show. They perform a service to our community each morning, by getting our day off to a positive start and reminding us that humor is the rule rather than the exception.

I would like to honor Mr. Bill Williams for his lifetime of service and dedication to the citizens of Crowley. I join with the Crowley community in commending him for his selfless and tireless efforts to better and promote our home. Though he was born in Illinois, and spent a considerable portion of his life in the Northeast, Bill has become such a vital part of our community over the past 44 years, that it is difficult to imagine there is any other place he would desire to call home.

Off the air, Bill is a leader in the Town of Crowley. He serves on the Crowley City Council and has worked diligently to make the International Rice Festival one of the most recognized cultural celebrations in Louisiana. He is commonly known as "Mr. Rice Festival," and he was recently honored by the Louisiana Rural Tourism Commission for his success in growing the annual event. Bill has made the Rice Festival an annual celebration of our area's rich agricultural industry, culture, cuisine and history. Today, the International Rice Festival is the oldest and largest agricultural festival in Louisiana, due in large part to Bill's efforts.

I want to offer him a heartfelt thanks for his constant efforts to build upon Crowley's tradition of excellence. Bill, I honor you, I honor your devotion to the betterment of our community, and most importantly I thank you for your lifetime of dedication to our wonderful hometown.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on April 3 and 4, I was unable to cast my votes on roll call votes: No. 76 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 768; No. 77 on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 91; No. 78 on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 56 as amended; No. 79 on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 66; No. 80 on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 111; No. 81 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 642 as amended; No. 82 on agreeing to the substitute amendment to H.R. 8 offered by Mr. RANGEL; No. 83 on motion to recommit H.R. 8 with instructions; and No. 84 on passage of H.R. 8. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 76, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, and "nay" on roll call votes 77 and 84.

A TRIBUTE TO RHODA STAHL

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rhoda Stahl on the celebration of her 90th birthday on Thursday, April 26, 2001.

Rhoda has lived a long and fulfilling life. She married her childhood sweetheart, Harry Stahl, on March 1, 1931. Together they had three children, Renee, Joel, and Larry. After the birth of their second child, the family moved to Long Island City, NY.

While in Long Island City she aided her husband by serving as the First Lady of Congregation Adath Israel while he was the congregation's President.

Rhoda was a devoted wife and mother during her 58 years of marriage to Harry. In 1978, she retired to Florida and then in 1989 she moved to San Diego, to live the rest of her long life near her daughter Renee.

Rhoda is now the proud grandmother of nine and great-grandmother of six. She is fortunate enough to spend her 90th birthday with friends and family from New York, Maryland, Virginia, and San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in extending my best wishes and congratulations to Rhoda Stahl on the occasion of her 90th birthday and in wishing her many more happy and healthy years with her loving family.

EARTH DAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on Earth Day, we celebrate an important milestone of the modern environmental movement in 1970, and we celebrate three decades of progress in protecting the environment. Thanks to the persistence and hard work of environmental champions from all walks of life, Americans enjoy cleaner air and cleaner water than in 1970.

Yet we still have far to go to achieve a sustainable approach to living on the Earth. We need leaders who have the vision to see that the fate of human beings and the environment are inextricably intertwined. We need leaders who appreciate that with new ideas, new practices, and new technologies, we can enjoy prosperity and economic growth without sacrificing the environment.

Instead, in his first 100 days in leadership, President Bush has acted swiftly to roll back a series of initiatives to protect the environment and human health:

Arsenic. Revoked new regulations to reduce the level of arsenic, a known carcinogen, in drinking water.

Hard-rock mining. Dumped new regulations that would make it tougher for mining companies to walk away from pollution caused by mining.

Global warming. Broke his campaign promise to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, the primary cause of global warming.

Kyoto protocol. Announced that the United States—which has already signed the Kyoto protocol to reduce greenhouse gas emissions—will withdraw from any further negotiations and will not seek ratification of the climate change treaty.

National forests. Postponed rules to protect 58 million acres in our national forests by prohibiting new roads, and is widely expected to try to overturn the new rules completely.

National monuments. Encouraged proposals to change boundaries and loosen protections